

the various nomenclatural innovations are to be found. Much the better plan, however, would have been to employ the well-known A. O. U. names in the main headings and to give the ultra-modern renderings in the footnotes.

For a government publication the present book is printed on exceptionally good paper. Save for the few half-tone plates, the illustrations are printed on the same good text paper; and to accomplish this the figures were drawn in a style of coarse lines—with results that are rough upon close inspection, but which give a good distant effect in most cases. Indeed, figure 1, of the Least Bittern, and figure 17, of the Song Sparrow, both drawn by Robert J. Sim, possess high merit both ornithologically and artistically. Several of the illustrations numbered as figures are maps showing the ranges of near-related birds within the state.

The paper ends with a well-ordered Bibliography, of 107 titles, and an adequate Index. Beyond the first page of the Bibliography the right-hand page headings read "Biography"; but errors otherwise, anywhere in the volume, are exceedingly few, an indication of careful editing and good proofreading.

On the whole, Howell's *Birds of Alabama* takes forward position among the many state bird reports that have now appeared. Particularly commendable is the successful cooperation evidenced in the joint auspices of production, in the present case as between a federal bureau and a state department. It is to be hoped that other states, Texas, for example, will enter eventually into the same sort of effective arrangement.—J. GRINNELL, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, August 4, 1924.*

MINUTES OF COOPER CLUB MEETINGS

NORTHERN DIVISION

JUNE.—The regular monthly meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Northern Division, was held at the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology on June 26, 1924, at 8 P. M. The meeting was called to order by President Dixon.

The following members were present: Misses Fisher, Hendren, Pringle and Van Gaasbeek; Mesdames Bamford, Bogle, Delpport, Grinnell, Harding, Holden, E. B. Mead, Calvert Meade and Schlesinger; Messrs. Clabaugh, Dixon, English, Grin-

nell, Mailliard, McKibben and Trost. Sixteen visitors attended the meeting.

Minutes of the May meeting were read and approved. Minutes of the Southern Division for May were read. Mr. Grinnell called the attention of the Club to the newly-issued Part I of the Check-list of the birds of the world. Mr. Joseph Mailliard reported upon some interesting observations made and records taken this spring in northeastern California, and soon to be published.

The speaker of the evening was Mr. Joseph Dixon, who told most entertainingly of the two months' eastern trip which he had just completed. His talk dealt with many contrasting aspects of eastern and western life. Two points stressed by him offer suggestions to the Cooper Club: namely, the number of outing meetings enjoyed by eastern bird clubs, and the stimulus offered to bird observation by the reports at meetings of occurrences of migrants and accidentals.

At the close of Mr. Dixon's talk, Miss Chatten of the staff of the State Fish and Game Commission brought to the attention of the Club the deplorable condition of the bird-life of Lower Klamath Lake, and suggested that since it has been proved that the draining of the lake has not been of any value in the agricultural development of the Klamath region the Club express itself as in favor of the reopening of the water gates at Ady and the refilling of the lake. Mr. Joseph Mailliard, seconded by Mr. English, made the following motion:

"It is hereby moved that the Cooper Ornithological Club, Northern Division, heartily endorse the movement to open the water gates at Ady and refill the Lower Klamath basin, thus restoring to thousands of birds their natural breeding grounds; and also that the Secretary be instructed to bring this motion to the attention of all persons whose influence may be invoked to help bring about the desired action." The motion was unanimously carried.

Mr. Clabaugh announced the circulation of a petition to the Legislature to prevent hydro-electric companies from so damming the Klamath River that salmon will be prevented from ascending to their spawning grounds. At the close of the meeting many members availed themselves of the opportunity to sign the petition. Adjourned.—HILDA W. GRINNELL, *Secretary.*

JULY.—The regular monthly meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Club, Northern Division, was held at the San Francisco office of Mr. Milton S. Ray on July 24, 1924, at 8 P. M. The meeting was called to order by President Dixon. The following members were present: Misses Holden and Pringle; Mesdames Grinnell, Kaseberg, Meade, Roe and Schlesinger; Messrs. Carriger, Dixon, Grinnell, Heineman, Labarthe, Lastreto, Mailliard, Ray, Strong and Van Denburgh. Mrs. Ray and Mrs. Smith were visitors.

Minutes of the June meeting were read and approved. No minutes were at hand from the Southern Division. The following names were proposed for membership: Miss Rhoda Foster, 721 Peralta Avenue, Berkeley, by J. Grinnell; Judge Thomas C. Denny, Sonoma, by J. Grinnell.

Two communications were read: A letter from the secretary of the A. O. U. acknowledging the invitation of the Cooper Club to the American Ornithologists' Union to hold the latter's annual meeting in Los Angeles in 1925; and a resolution from the American Society of Mammalogists condemning the active propaganda being carried on, largely by those who would be financially benefited, for the destruction of so-called "vermin" and predatory animals.

The attention of the Club was called to the recently issued "Birds of Alabama," both because of its intrinsic interest and because of its value as an example of the beneficial results which may accrue from co-operation between State and National institutions.

Mr. Lastreto, speaking in behalf of the Audubon Association of the Pacific, brought before the Club the fact that in the bulletin soon to be issued by the Park Commission of San Francisco, describing the trees and shrubs of Golden Gate Park, eight pages have been allotted to the Audubon Association for notes on the birds of the Park. Mr. Lastreto requested that those members of the Cooper Club having notes on the birds of Golden Gate Park contribute them to the proposed paper. The suggestion was cordially received.

The talk of the evening was given by Mr. Milton S. Ray who reported upon "Recent Field Work." Mr. Ray's interesting experiences included oological investigations in Arizona from the cottonwoods and mesquites of the San Pedro River across the broad plains to the sycamores of the foothills, then through the oak-wooded

hills to the pine-clad summits of the Huachuclas. After the conclusion of his work in Arizona, Mr. Ray visited Texas, Kentucky, the District of Columbia, Maryland and New York. The variety of his finds and the extensiveness of the area covered make it necessary for the secretary to leave a more extended account of the field work accomplished to the pen of Mr. Ray himself. Adjourned.—HILDA W. GRINNELL, *Secretary*.

SOUTHERN DIVISION

MAY.—The Cooper Ornithological Club, Southern Division, held its May meeting on Sunday afternoon, May 25, 1924, at Altadena, as guests of Messrs. and Mesdames Law and Chambers. About fifty members and friends were present to enjoy the afternoon. After a pleasant time roaming around the grounds and visiting, the meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Wyman. Minutes of the April meeting were read and approved. Minutes of the Northern Division were read by title only.

The following names were presented for membership: Dr. Raymond Dobbs, Box 179, Pasadena, by Mary Mann Miller; Mrs. Slavia Leich, care the *Examiner*, Los Angeles, by Mrs. Husher; Mrs. Warren H. Martz, 4601 Welch Place, Los Angeles, by Ella H. Ellis; Mrs. Irving J. Mitchell, 1127 W. 20th St., Los Angeles, by Ella H. Ellis; Dr. Witmer Stone, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa., by W. Lee Chambers; Miriam Hall Wegener, 506 N. Third St., Alhambra, by J. Eugene Law.

The Secretary was instructed to include in the notices of the June meeting, to be held at Santa Barbara, a request that members having extra transportation and also those desiring accommodation notify the Secretary to that effect. Mr. Law requested that members present who were keeping accurate records of arrivals and departures of birds under their observation, leave their names with him so that he might get their lists for this year.

Mr. de Laubenfels expressed the appreciation of all present in thanking the hosts and hostesses for their delightful hospitality. The meeting then adjourned and a very pleasant afternoon was brought to a close with the serving of delicious refreshments.—ELLA H. ELLIS, *Secretary*.

JUNE.—At the invitation of Mr. Ralph Hoffmann, the June meeting of the South-

ern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club was held at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Saturday evening, June 28, 1924. The following from Santa Barbara were in attendance: Members, Messrs. Hoffmann, Parmenter, Rett, Sheldon and Varick; visitors, Mrs. Parmenter, Misses Banks, Bayles, Burnap, Peckman, Webb and Mr. Rice. Those present from elsewhere were: Members, Misses Potter and Pratt, Mesdames Ellis and Law, Messrs. Appleton, Chambers, Law, Laurence and Sidney Peyton, Rich, Widmann and Wyman; visitors, Miss Marsh, Mesdames Appleton, Hartman and Wyman, and Mr. Beatty.

Previous to the meeting some little time was spent in the Museum examining birdskins, nests, eggs, etc., the habitat groups, in particular, drawing forth expressions of admiration. As the hour was late when Mr. Wyman called the meeting to order, it was voted to waive the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting and to read the May minutes of the Northern Division by title only. A letter from Dr. A. K. Fisher was read, thanking the Club and expressing his appreciation for his election as honorary member. The name of Mrs. W. H. Homer, Jr., 1625 S. 5th East, Salt Lake City, Utah, was proposed by Miss Pratt. Mr. Wyman thanked Mr. Hoffmann and his many helpers for their delightful hospitality and complimented the Museum on the fine collection and the splendid work done in taxidermy. He offered the loan of skins from the Los Angeles Museum for special displays or lectures.

There being no further business, Mr. Hoffmann was called upon to give a short talk on his recent trips. He prefaced his remarks by expressing the hope that the Club would make the meeting at Santa Barbara an annual affair. Mr. Hoffmann's trips began the middle of February and covered about 5000 miles, in which he came across some 300 to 350 species of California birds. He related a number of interesting experiences, such as running into flocks of Cranes at Goose Lake, the Sandhills getting ready for the northward migration, making evolutions in the air above an alfalfa field like the Pelicans. He described the cry of the Elf Owl, heard on several evenings in the giant cactus near Tucson. His explanation of the sound made by the Wilson Snipe during the breeding season was especially interesting.

The meeting then adjourned, after which everyone enjoyed the refreshments served.—ELLA H. ELLIS, *Secretary*.

JULY.—The Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club held its regular monthly meeting at the Los Angeles Museum, Exposition Park, on Thursday, July 31, 1924, at 8 P. M., with the president, Mr. Wyman, in the chair and the following members present: Misses Burnell and Potter; Mesdames Anthony, Barnes, Ellis, Hall, Law, Robertson and Schneider; Messrs. Barnes, Calder, Chambers, Hanaford, Law, Robertson, Ross and Wyman. Visitors were Misses Marsh and Sykes, Mesdames Chambers, Edwards, Reis and Wyman, and Mr. Van Tyne.

Minutes of the May and June meetings were read and approved. The following names were proposed for membership: Myrtle S. Edwards, 2121 North Allen Street, Altadena, by J. Eugene Law; Mildred E. Sykes, 3915 South Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles, by L. E. Wyman. A letter from the A. O. U. was read, acknowledging receipt of the Club's invitation to the Union to hold its 1925 meeting in Los Angeles.

Mr. Law announced that he is now able to supply traps to banders who desire them, as he has made arrangements for the manufacture of both the collapsible and the six compartment trap, at moderate cost. The meeting was then declared open for general discussion and reports. Mr. Wyman passed around a tray of Cowbird skins, including the Eastern, the Nevada, and our own form. Different birds mentioned as having been seen with young Cowbirds in tow were: first-year male Arizona Hooded Oriole, male Willow Goldfinch, Song Sparrow, and English Sparrow.

Mrs. Schneider and Mrs. Hall reported on shore and water birds seen during the past few days at Playa del Rey. Mrs. Schneider brought up the question as to whether or not birds were more concentrated this year in places where there is considerable moisture. The general opinion was that this is true. It was reported that birds in the vicinity of the Los Angeles Playground Camp in the High Sierras were not laying full sets of eggs this year, and Mr. Wyman stated that a falling off in reproduction of species is one of the first evidences of shortage of food. Various members added other observations of interest.

Adjourned.—ELLA H. ELLIS, *Secretary*.